

I. LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

All pending claims are reproduced below:

Claim 1. (Original): A system for detecting an annotated anchor in a document, comprising:

a first code for locating an annotation in the document; and,

a second code for detecting, proximate to or within the annotation, the presence of an anchor.

Claim 2. (Original): The system of claim 1 wherein said second code detects an anchor which represents an explicit link to at least one other location.

Claim 3. (Original): The system of claim 1 wherein said second code detects an anchor which represents an implicit link to at least one other location.

Claim 4. (Original): The system of claim 1 further including a data structure referencing said annotated anchor.

Claim 5. (Original): The system of claim 1 further including a third code for processing said annotated anchor.

Claim 6. (Original): The system of claim 5 wherein said third code for processing said annotated anchor includes generating a data structure including said annotated anchor.

Claim 7. (Original): The system of claim 6 wherein said data structure includes a plurality of annotated anchors.

Claim 8. (Original): The system of claim 7 wherein said plurality of annotated anchors are obtained from at least one document.

Claim 9. (Original): The system of claim 7 wherein said plurality of annotated anchors in said data structure are displayed in a format.

Claim 10. (Original): The system of claim 9 wherein said format includes displaying said annotated anchors according to annotation metadata.

Claim 11. (Original): The system of claim 9 wherein said format includes displaying said annotated anchors according to annotated anchor metadata.

Claim 12. (Original): The system of claim 11 wherein said annotated anchors each represent a link to at least one target; and wherein said annotated anchor metadata includes a number of anchors within said document representing said target.

Claim 13. (Original): The system of claim 11 wherein said annotated anchors each represent a link to at least one target; and wherein said annotated anchor metadata includes a number of annotated anchors representing said target.

Claim 14. (Original): The system of claim 9 wherein said annotated anchors each represent a link to at least one target; and wherein said format includes displaying said annotated anchors according to target metadata.

Claim 15. (Original): The system of claim 14 wherein said target is a second document.

Claim 16. (Original): The system of claim 5 wherein said third code for processing said annotated anchor includes adding said annotated anchor to a data structure based on at least one attribute value.

Claim 17. (Original): The system of claim 16 wherein said data structure includes a plurality of annotated anchors which have said at least one attribute value.

Claim 18. (Original): The system of claim 17 wherein said plurality of annotated anchors are obtained from a plurality of documents.

Claim 19. (Original): The system of claim 17 wherein said plurality of annotated anchors in said data structure are displayed in a format.

Claim 20. (Original): The system of claim 19 wherein said format includes displaying said annotated anchors according to annotation metadata.

Claim 21. (Original): The system of claim 19 wherein said format includes displaying said annotated anchors according to annotated anchor metadata.

Claim 22. (Original): The system of claim 19 wherein said annotated anchors each represent a link to at least one target; and wherein said format includes displaying said annotated anchors according to target metadata.

Claim 23. (Original): The system of claim 22 wherein said target is a second document.

Claim 24. (Original): The system of claim 5 wherein said annotated anchor represents a link to at least a first target; and wherein said third code for processing said annotated anchor includes locating a second document which includes a reference to said first target.

Claim 25. (Original): The system of claim 24 wherein said document contains a second annotated anchor representing a link to at least a second target; and wherein said third code for processing said annotated anchor includes locating at least a second document which includes a reference to said first and second targets.

Claim 26. (Original): The system of claim 5 wherein said annotated anchor represents a link to at least a second document; and wherein said third code for processing said annotated anchor includes obtaining said second document.

Claim 27. (Original): The system of claim 26 wherein said second document is obtained prior to a reader requesting said second document.

Claim 28. (Original): The system of claim 5 wherein said annotated anchor represents a link to at least one target; and wherein said third code for processing said annotated anchor includes detecting a second anchor representing a link to said target; and propagating said annotation to said second anchor.

Claim 29. (Original): The system of claim 28 wherein said second anchor is within said document.

Claim 30. (Original): The system of claim 28 wherein said second anchor is within a second document.

Claim 31. (Original): The system of claim 5 wherein said annotated anchor represents a link to at least one target; and wherein said third code for processing said annotated anchor includes detecting a second anchor representing a link to said target; and suppressing a display of said second anchor.

Claim 32. (Original): The system of claim 31 wherein said second anchor is within said document.

Claim 33. (Original): The system of claim 31 wherein said second anchor is within a second document.

Claim 34. (Original): The system of claim 5 wherein said annotated anchor represents a link to at least one target; and wherein said third code for processing said annotated anchor includes identifying, in a hypertext structure, a node representing said target; and propagating said annotation to said node.

Claim 35. (Original): The system of claim 34 wherein said code for processing includes identifying, in said hypertext structure, a connecting object representing said link, and altering said connecting object.

Claim 36. (Original): The system of claim 5 wherein said annotated anchor represents a link to at least one target; and wherein said third code for processing said annotated anchor includes identifying, in a hypertext structure, a node representing said target; and suppressing a display of said node.

Claim 37. (Original): The system of claim 36 wherein said third code for processing said annotated anchor includes identifying, in said hypertext structure, an object representing said link and suppressing a display of said object.

Claim 38. (Original): The system of claim 5 wherein said annotated anchor represents a link to at least one target; and wherein said third code for processing said annotated anchor includes displaying said annotated anchor and said target.

Claim 39. (Original): A method for detecting and processing a plurality of annotated anchors in a plurality of documents, comprising the steps of:

- (a) locating an annotation in a document;
- (b) detecting, proximate to or within the annotation, the presence of an anchor;
- (c) processing the annotated anchor; and,
- (d) repeating steps (a) – (c) for each annotation in the plurality of documents.

Claim 40. (Original): The method of claim 39 wherein step (c) includes the steps of:

adding the annotated anchor to a data structure of annotated anchors; and,
displaying the data structure of annotated anchors.

Claim 41. (Original): The method of claim 39 wherein step (c) includes the steps of:

adding annotated anchors including at least one selected attribute to a data structure;
and,
displaying said data structure.

Claim 42. (Original): The method of claim 39 wherein said annotated anchors each represent a link to at least one target; and wherein step (c) includes the step of:

locating at least a second document which includes a reference to at least one of said targets.

Claim 43. (Original): The method of claim 39 wherein at least one of said annotated anchors represent a link to a second document; and wherein step (c) includes the steps of:

determining whether said second document is stored in said system; and
obtaining said second document if not already stored.

Claim 44. (Original): The method of claim 39 wherein step (c) includes the steps of:

determining a target of said annotated anchor;
detecting a second anchor representing a link to said target; and,
propagating said annotation to said second anchor.

Claim 45. (Original): The method of claim 39 wherein step (c) includes the steps of:

determining a target of said annotated anchor;
detecting a second anchor representing a link to said target; and,
suppressing a display of said second anchor.

Claim 46. (Original): The method of claim 39 wherein step (c) includes the steps of:

determining a target of said annotated anchor;
detecting a node, in a hypertext structure, representing said target; and,
propagating said annotation to said node.

Claim 47. (Original): The method of claim 46 wherein said annotated anchor represents a link to said target; and wherein step (c) further includes the steps of:

detecting an object, in said hypertext structure, representing said link; and,
altering said object.

Claim 48. (Original): The method of claim 39 wherein step (c) includes the steps of:

determining a target of said annotated anchor;
detecting a node, in a hypertext structure, representing said target; and,
suppressing said node.

Claim 49. (Original): The method of claim 48 wherein said annotated anchor represents a link to said target; and wherein step (c) further includes the steps of:

detecting an object, in the hypertext structure, representing said link; and,
suppressing the display of said object.

Claim 50. (Original): The method of claim 39 wherein said annotated anchor represents a link to at least one target; and wherein step (c) includes the step of:

displaying simultaneously, said annotated anchor and said target.

Claim 51. (Original): An apparatus for detecting at least one annotated anchor in a document comprising:

a processor;
a processor readable storage medium in communication with the processor, containing processor readable program code for programming the apparatus to:
detect each annotation in the document;
detect, proximate to or within each annotation, the presence of an anchor; and,
generate a data structure including each annotated anchor.

Claim 52. (Original): The apparatus of claim 51 further including processor readable program code for programming the apparatus to:

filter the data structure to include only annotated anchors which contain at least one selected attribute.

Claim 53. (Original): The apparatus of claim 51 further including processor readable program code for programming the apparatus to:

locate a second document containing a reference to at least one of said annotated anchors included in said data structure.

Claim 54. (Original): The apparatus of claim 51 further including processor readable program code for programming the apparatus to:

determine a target document for each annotated anchor included in said data structure;
identify whether the target document is stored within the apparatus;
obtain a copy of the target document if not stored.

Claim 55. (Original): The apparatus of claim 51 further including processor readable program code for programming the apparatus to:

determine a target document for said annotated anchor;
identify additional anchors which represent a link to said target document; and
propagate said annotation to said identified additional anchors.

Claim 56. (Original): The apparatus of claim 51 further including processor readable program code for programming the apparatus to:

determine a target for said annotated anchor;
identify, in a hypertext structure, a node representing said target; and
propagate said annotation to said node.